

Message Text

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TAGS ENRG SENV CA US

SUBJ ENERGY: U.S. MACKENZIE VALLEY GAS

PIPELINE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY

1. MONTREAL GAZETTE OF JULY 29 PROMINENTLY CARRIES BOGDAN
KIPLING REPORT (WASHINGTON DATELINE) CAPTIONED "ARCTIC GAS
ALASKAN LINE PLAN WINS SUPPORT OF U.S. STUDY". EXCERPTS FROM
THE NEWS REPORT ARE AS FOLLOWS:

"A SENIOR OFFICIAL OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE
INTERIOR SAID YESTERDAY THAT THE MACKENZIE VALLEY NATURAL GAS
PIPELINE PLANNED BY ARCTIC GAS IS 'SUPERIOR' TO THE SO-CALLED
ALL-AMERICAN ROUTE PROPOSED BY A RIVAL COMPANY.

"'BASED ON THE FACTS BEFORE US, THE ARCTIC GAS ALTERNATIVE
IS SUPERIOR,' SAID ROMAN KOENIGS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT FOR THE DEPARTMENT WHILE PRESENTING
THE PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY OF THE PIPELINE
PROPOSED BY ALASKAN ARCTIC GAS PIPELINE CO."

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"KORNIGS EMPHASIZED YESTERDAY THAT WHEREAS THE ARCTIC GAS PROJECT HAS BEEN CAREFULLY DISSECTED, THE SAME COULD NOT BE DONE FOR THE RIVAL EL PASO ALASKAN CO. PROJECT BECAUSE THE COMPANY HAS REFUSED TO FILE AN APPLICATION WITH THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT."

"EL PASO HAS DECIDED NOT TO SUBMIT TO THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROBERS BECAUSE IT WOULD HAVE TO PAY FOR THE FORT. IT HAS APPLIED TO THE FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION WHICH WILL CONDUCT THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY AT PUBLIC EXPENSE.

"ARCTIC GAS WILL PAY THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT SOME \$3.5 MILLION FOR ITS STUDY WHICH AT THIS POINT IS ONLY 'PRELIMINARY'."

2. JOHN PICTON REPORT IN GLOBE AND MAIL, ON OTHER HAND, CARRIES NO REPEAT NO REFERENCES TO INTERIOR DEPARTMENT ROUTE OR PROJECT PREFERENCES, BUT LIMITS ITSELF SOLELY TO LISTING OF "WEAKNESSES" IN ARCTIC GAS PROPOSAL UNCOVERED BY INTERIOR ENVIRONMENT IMPACT STUDY.
JOHNSON

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